163. A method for an end user to verify that certificate information is authenticated by an authority, comprising:
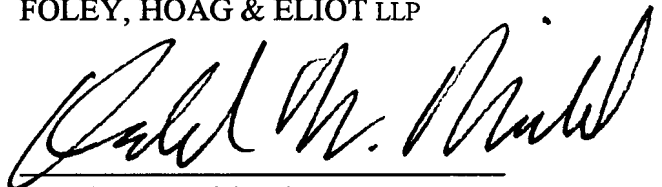
(a)   obtaining at least a portion of an authenticated tree having certificate nodes corresponding to certificate values indicative of the information;

(b)   obtaining additional values indicative of at least one of the following: certificate values, authenticating values of certificate values, and one or more node values authenticated by an authority; and

(c)   verifying that the certificate values indicative of the information correspond to the additional values.

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. Should there be any questions after reviewing this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 617-832-1257.

Respectfully submitted,

FOLEY, HOAG & ELIOT LLP

Donald W. Muirhead
Registration No. 33,978

Date: March 20, 1998

Patent Group
Foley, Hoag & Eliot LLP
One Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109-2170